

**REMARKS**

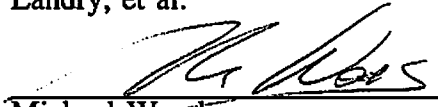
In this Amendment, claims 35-38 have been canceled and claims 123-183 have been added. No new matter has been entered. After entry of this Amendment, claims 123-183 will be pending in the application.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephonic interview on August 23, 2007, with the Applicants' undersigned representative. This Amendment is consistent with that which was discussed during the interview.

Applicants respectfully submit that these newly submitted claims overcome the rejections and respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number indicated below with any questions or comments, or to otherwise facilitate expeditious prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,  
Landry, et al.



Michael Woods  
Registration No. 50,811  
Attorney for Applicants

ABBOTT SPINE  
Customer No.: 23492  
Telephone: (512) 533-1945  
Facsimile: (512) 597-4275